

VZCZCXRO2678
OO RUEHQU
DE RUEHPU #1750 3571803
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 221803Z DEC 08
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9335
INFO RUEHZH/HAITI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 2160
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 1915
RUEHQU/AMCONSUL QUEBEC PRIORITY 1318
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1753
RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J2 MIAMI FL PRIORITY
RUEILB/NCTC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 001750

SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA/EX AND WHA/CAR
S/CRS
INL FOR KEVIN BROWN AND ANGELIC YOUNG
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
STATE PASS AID FOR LAC/CAR
INR/IAA
WHA/EX PLEASE PASS USOAS
SLUG FOR S/CT RHONDA SHORE AND NCTC

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [ASEC](#) [PTER](#) [HA](#)
SUBJECT: HAITI: 2008 COUNTRY REPORT ON TERRORISM

REF: A. SECSTATE 120019
[1](#)B. SECSTATE 124815

GENERAL ASSESSMENT

[1](#)1. (U) There is no evidence that Haiti is a target for Islamic extremist activity or acts of international terrorism. There are no existing terror cells, such as al-Qaida or any other terrorist organizations in Haiti. No acts of international terrorism occurred in Haiti in 2008. The Government of Haiti (GOH) does not have a formal counter-terrorism program. The Ministry of the Interior's Office of Immigration has mechanisms in place for immigration control and also maintains a watch-list. There are no records of individuals included on the watch-list in 2008 who are terrorist-related.

SAFE HAVEN ASSESSMENTS

[1](#)2. (U) The GOH has no evidence that Haiti has been used as a safe haven for terrorists or terrorist organizations in 2008. Immigration authorities reported to Emboffs that the increase in the number of third-country nationals using Haiti as a transit-point for economic migration to the Dominican Republic and the United States (and other countries) implies Haiti could be used by terrorists as a potential zone to conduct terrorist activities in the long-term. Although the GOH believes the current threat is marginal, authorities say its concerns about terrorism may grow in the future due to weak state institutions.

FOREIGN GOVERNMENT COOPERATION

[1](#)3. (U) The GOH cooperated with the United States on counter-terrorism efforts in 2008. The Financial Investigative Unit (BAFE) within the Haitian National Police and the Financial Intelligence Unit (UCREF) within the Ministry of Justice are cooperating with the USG in anti-money laundering initiatives to improve the ability to detect funds acquired through criminal activity, including funds that could be acquired through terrorist networks. The Haitian Government has also drafted Counter-Terrorism legislation in 2008, which will be voted by Parliament in

¶2009.

INFORMATION ON TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

¶4. (U) During 2008 in Haiti, there were no activities by a terrorist or terrorist umbrella group that is known to be responsible for the kidnapping or death of a U.S. citizen during the preceding five years, known to have obtained or developed -- or to have attempted to obtain or develop -- weapons of mass destruction, or known to be financed by a designated state sponsor of terrorism, a designated foreign terrorist organization, or a known terrorist group.

¶5. (U) Post point of contact is Political Officer Kelly J. Tucker; Email Tuckerkj@state.gov.
TIGHE